

**REMARKS**

In the Final Office Action of June 16, 2005, the Examiner recognized claims 15 and 16 as being allowable. Claim 18 was objected to for being dependent on the rejected base claim 17 and claim 28 was objected to for being dependent upon rejected base claim 27. It was acknowledged that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 18 and 28 are believed to be allowable without amendment as the claims on which they ultimately depend are now believed to be in an allowable form.

Claims 14, 17, and 27 stand rejected under 35U.S.C. § 103(a) for being obvious over Nitsas, as this reference is relied on for teaching a ratio 10:1 and, therefore, it is said that claimed ranges overlap the prior art.

Applicants traversed the rejection over Nitsas for reasons of record. However, in order to advance the prosecution of this application, claim 14 is presently amended to recite the ratio of carvacrol to thymol of 1:5 to 4:1. Ratios of this low level carvacrol to thymol are not disclosed in the prior art and are suggested to be ineffective. Accordingly, it is believed that claim 14 and the claims that depend thereon are now in condition for allowance.

Attorney Docket: I-1999.528 US  
Customer No.: 31846  
USSN: 10/030,886  
Page 4 of 6

Claim 27 was rejected for being dependent on the original claim 14. Claim 27 is now amended to incorporate the limitations of original claim 14 and is now presented in independent form. It recites a method for treating a bacterial infection caused by Treponema.

It is respectfully submitted that the Nitsas reference does not suggest that such compositions would be useful for treating swine dysentery or Treponema infections. Accordingly, it is believed that the ratio of 1:5 to 10:1 in the claims for treating swine dysentery or Treponema infections is neither suggested nor obvious from the prior art.

It is respectfully submitted that, with the present amendments, claims 14-18, 27 and 28 are in condition for allowance. Favorable action solicited.

Should the Examiner consider that a conference would be helpful in advancing the prosecution of this application he is invited to telephone applicants' at the number below.

Attorney Docket: I-1999.528 US  
Customer No.: 31846  
USSN: 10/030,886  
Page 5 of 6

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Attorney Docket: I-1999.528 US  
Customer No.: 31846  
USSN: 10/030,886  
Page 6 of 6